

FC  
adult novels

オリジナル小説

恋

春待つ五月

乙女  
なでしこ  
恋手帖

OTOME  
NADESHIKO  
LOVE DIARY

深山くのえ 画・藤間 麗

Kunoc Miyama illustration Rci Toma





**Sound of Jewels**  
**presents**

*Otome Nadeshiko*

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# *Otome Nadeshiko*

*-Love Diary-*

A gust of wind swept across the path and made Chizuru sway that she had to hold on her parasol with all her strength. A cloud of dust whipped up while her long light purple sleeves fly in the air. Hopefully, her parasol was there to protect her. Everything stopped in a second.

It seemed like she was at the right place.

She brought out a paper where she wrote the address to refresh her memory.

« Ah !... »

Her clumsiness made her loose the paper as the wind took it away on the other side of a high fence made of wood which separates somebody's property and the street.

« ...damn it... »

It was the first time she was invited there !  
Without that address she couldn't go there.

Alright! For now, she needs to find someone to help her find the right way.

Chizuru looked around her, completely lost. She pushed her brown hair back to bare her ears. It was tied by a scarlet ribbon. It fluttered around her face. Even if she looked around her again and again, she couldn't find anybody. Maybe she could ask someone in the neighborhood? But the noise coming from the Ueno Park contrasts with the deathly silence around her, in that path where Chizuru never came before.

« ... »

She followed the wall that separated her from the paper with the important address. She saw a door. Chizuru opened it a little and then closed her parasol. When she was right in front of that



door, she stopped, straightened her Kimono and checked if there were any dusts left on her hakama. The bellflowers on it were the sign that she attended the girl's high school, Matsumori. That hakama didn't really follow the rules but somehow wearing it brings a little prestige. When she finished checking her clothes, she tried calling someone:

« Excuse me ! Is there somebody here? »

That important paper flew inside this house. She was sure of it. And she had to take it back no matter what because she had no other choice. The wind was weaker than before. She edged forward on the gravel. When she turned her head, she saw a young man, wearing a blue Kimono studded with white stains. He was staring at her so hard that it took her breath away and she forgot to greet him. Then, he looked at her warily, and frowned. When she calmed down,

Chizuru suddenly remembered to greet him and lowered deeply her head.

« I...I am so sorry to come here unexpectedly...  
-what do you want ? »

While she was explaining why she came there, the young man invited her to come inside. Subconsciously, Chizuru gripped strongly her parasol.

« um...I lost a paper where I wrote an address...the wind took it to your house...that's why I came here to take it back...»

The young man stayed impassive. And while kept his severe look, he put down the bucket of water he has in his hands.

«I am....so sorry to bother you with that...but if it wasn't really important, I wouldn't come and ask for your help... »



*Maybe I made him angry, thought Chizuru. Maybe he thinks I'm an impertinent girl to show up like that.*

But she can't come home without it. Even if she knew that her attitude will cost her family's honor, she decided to beg one more time. Chizuru bowed down and made a step toward the young man.

« ...it has to be somewhere in your house.

-what ?

-the paper where I noted the address has to be somewhere in your house.»

Even if she knew that tone wasn't really pleasant, Chizuru was relieved to not hear anger in his voice.

« ah...um...When I lost it I was walking over here, so the paper has to be around here...

-it passed above the wall ? »

His voice was just a murmur. The young man looked at the direction Chizuru showed him. She did the same but she couldn't see any trace of the paper she was looking for.

The young man turned his head in Chizuru's direction.

« what does that paper look like ?

-well....it was approximately this long and I wrote an address on the front. »

While Chizuru was explaining how that paper looked like, the young man started to move the potted plants and pushed away shrubs in order to find it.

*...even if he looks severe, he's not a bad guy...thought Chizuru.*

She stepped aside in order to not bother the young man and then took the opportunity to stare at him furtively.



Even though he wasn't a Westerner, he has quite a long nose for a Japanese. He had regular features and even if he looked severe, it looks like he was full of different expressions. While she was gazing at him, her fear disappeared little by little.

"...looks like it's not here", he said while he was standing up and came back to the place where Chizuru was waiting for him.

For just a second, she was aware of how tall he was. Obviously, he was more aware about that detail. Even if he's slim, he's still strong and is even a muscular man. She raised her eyes and the young man turned his head in the direction of the garden. He kept looking at the bottom of the hydrangea.

...ah...

Chizuru opened her mouth but no sound came out. In that garden, the grass was so green that it

sprouted like an entire block. In the middle of it, there was a single pale pink flower. The petals were downy like the plumage of a bird. It was a Carnation/ Wild pink (\*nadeshiko in Japanese).

And the house had the exact color.

*How nostalgic...*

« here it is ! »

Chizuru was so focused on gazing at the Wild Pink that she didn't hear the young man's voice as if he was far, far away.

« eh ? »

She turned her head and her eyes wandered on the blue azure of his kimono. The man was holding the paper with the address on his hand...

« this is what you've been looking for, right? Mister Kinoshita Soube, on the district of Hongô...



-yes. Yes that's it! »

She took the paper and looked at it to confirm that it was the one.

« But where did that...?

-it was hanging up over there. »

The young man pointed out the pale mauve Hydrangeas surrounded by Japanese iris. There were various flowers in that garden.

« Thank you! Thank you so much for your help! »

Seems like the rules of politeness was imposed, so Chizuru bowed in front of the young man and he looked away as if he was saying « no, it was nothing. »

The wind blew again and Chizuru put away the precious paper.

« ...did that Mister Kinoshita invite you?

-yes! »

She knew she answered too hastily. She looked once again at the young man and noticed that he was still looking at the place where she put the paper with the address.

« well...I have to go now...

-you're taking the wrong way.

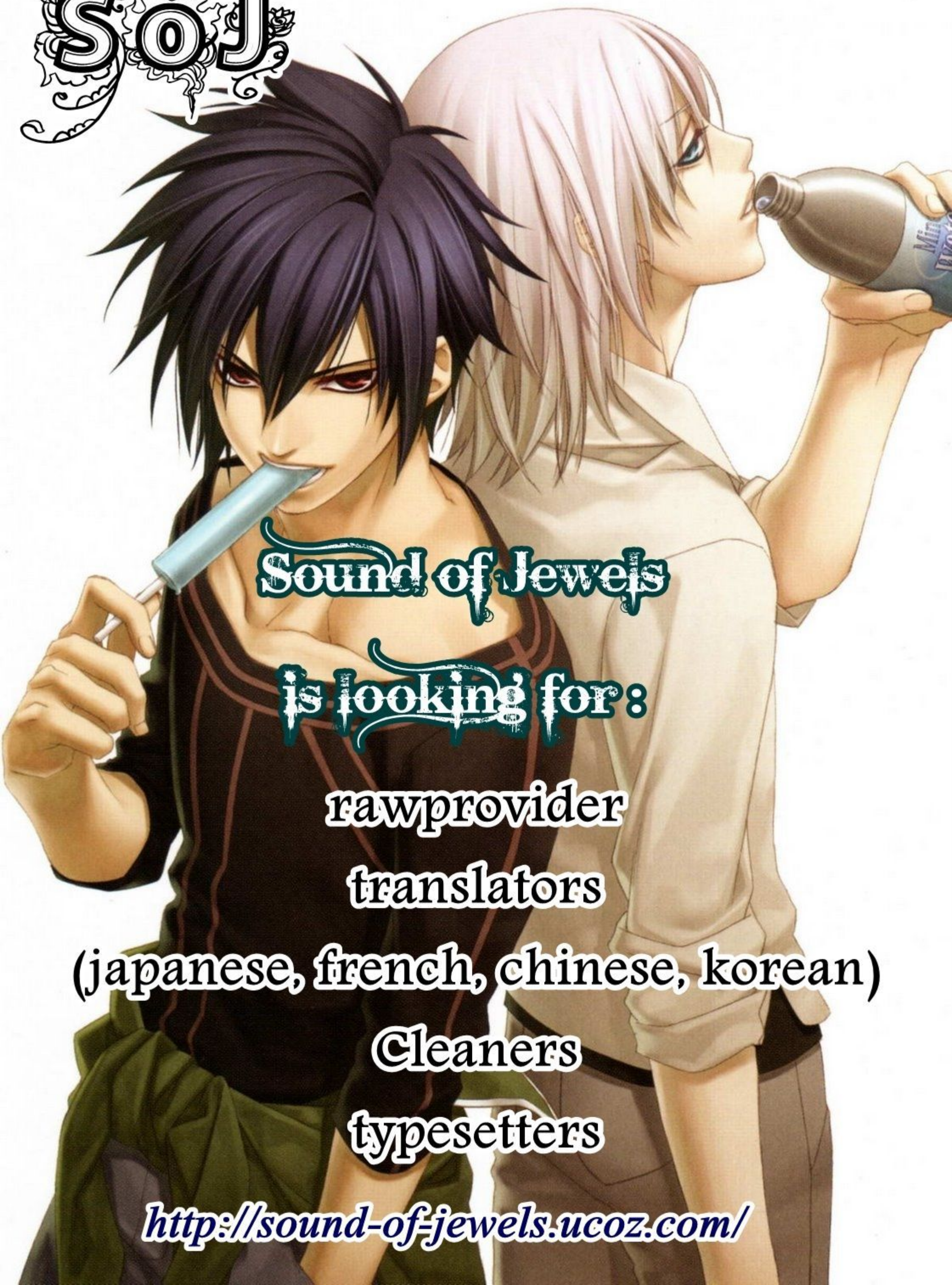
-eh ?

*....to be continued....*









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